

Meelis Kitsing

EDUCATION

- 2004- Present **University of Massachusetts Amherst** Amherst, MA, USA
PhD Candidate in Political Science.
 - Qualifying Fields: International Relations and Comparative Politics (with Distinction).
 - Dissertation: Tacit Web: Institutional Determinants of Internet Diffusion.
- 2002-2004 **The Fletcher School of Law and Diplomacy, Tufts University** Medford, MA, USA
Master of Arts in Law and Diplomacy
 - Fields of Study: International Business and Economic Law; International Trade and Commercial Policies.
 - Thesis: *The Impact of Economic Openness on Internet Diffusion in Estonia and Slovenia.*
- 2000-2001 **London School of Economics and Political Science** London, England
Master of Science in Politics of the World Economy
 - Core courses: Politics of International Trade, Politics of Money in the International System and International Political Economy
 - Long Essay: *The Political Economy of Internet Penetration in Finland and Sweden*
- 1991-1998 **Tartu University** Tartu, Estonia
Baccalaureus artium in History at the Faculty of Philosophy
 - Concentration: Contemporary History

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

- 2009 **University of Connecticut** Storrs, CT, USA
Instructor, Political Science Department
 - Taught Comparative Political Economy and Transitions to Democracy.
- 2007-2009 **University of Massachusetts Amherst** Amherst, MA, USA
Instructor, Political Science Department
 - Taught American Foreign Policy, and online courses on Comparative Politics, American Foreign Policy and World Politics.
- 2006 **Clark University** Worcester, MA, USA
Visiting Assistant Professor, Government and International Relations Department
 - Taught Transitions to Democracy and Politics of Central and Eastern Europe courses.
- 2006 **College of the Holy Cross** Worcester, MA, USA
Lecturer, Political Science Department
 - Taught Introduction to Comparative Politics course.
- 2004- 2008 **Emmanuel College** Boston, MA, USA
Adjunct Instructor, Department of Economics and Management
 - Taught History of Economic Thought course to management majors.
 - Supervised BA theses and independent studies in international political economy.

- 2004- 2007 **University of Massachusetts Amherst** Amherst, MA, USA
Teaching Assistant, Political Science Department
- Lead three discussion sections and graded papers for World Politics and American Foreign Policy courses.
- 2003 **University of Massachusetts Lowell** Lowell, MA, USA
Adjunct Instructor, Department of Political Science
- Taught Introduction to International Relations course to undergraduates.
- 1998-2002 **Estonian Business School** Tallinn, Estonia
Lecturer, Department of Economic Theory
- Taught History of Economic Thought and International Political Economy in Estonian and English.
 - Coordinated a one-year course on international political economy funded by international donors with 12 guest lecturers from Western Europe and United States.

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

- 2006-Present **National Center for Digital Government** Amherst, MA, USA
Doctoral Fellow
- Researching information technology and politics.
 - Giving presentations at workshops and conferences.
- 2007-2008 **University of Massachusetts Amherst** Amherst, MA, USA
Research Assistant, Department of Natural Resources Conservation
- Conducting case-study research, interviewing and assisting in developing theoretical framework for the research project funded by the U.S. National Science Foundation investigating collective action in the open source software movement.
- 2005 **Institute for Humane Studies, George Mason University** Arlington, VA, USA
Summer Graduate Research Fellow (non-residential)
- Wrote a paper on political economy of Internet diffusion.
- 2002-2003 **Harvard University** Cambridge, MA, USA
Researcher (part-time), Program on Humanitarian Policy and Conflict Research at the Harvard School of Public Health
- Analyzed and catalogued documents for the international humanitarian law portal.
- Reviewer, Working Group of Afghan Legal History Project at Harvard Law School
- Examined prepared drafts and gave feedback to researchers.
- 2002-2003 **Central European University** Budapest, Hungary
International Policy Fellow (non-residential), Center for Policy Studies
- Researched the Internet diffusion in Central and Eastern Europe from political economy perspective.
- 2001-2002 **Stockholm School of Economics in Riga** Riga, Latvia
Research Associate
- Supervised students in the writing of bachelor theses and edited working papers.

1994 **Cato Institute** Washington, DC, USA
 Koch Fellow, Project on Global Economic Liberty

- Analyzed data and information on International Monetary Fund and the World Bank

RECENT CONSULTING WORK

2007 **United Nations E-Government Survey 2008** New York, NY, USA
 Researcher, The Core Research Team

- Evaluated e-government of 10 countries for the survey.

2005 **Open Society Institute (Soros Foundation)** Budapest, Hungary
 Researcher, Information Program

- Prepared two case studies for the Europe-wide research project of the European Public Sector Information Network on the re-use of public sector information.

2002 **Open Society Institute (Soros Foundation)** Central Asia and New York
 Strategy Consultant, Information Program

- Evaluated the Global Internet Policy Initiative (GIPI) by interviewing its officers and stakeholders in Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Uzbekistan and USA

2002 **Center for Strategic Initiatives, Bank of Estonia** Tallinn, Estonia
 Expert

- Participated in the workshop of experts that prepared economic strategy for investing the structural and cohesion funds of the European Union in the Estonian economy.

2002 **Oxford Analytica Consultancy** Oxford, England
 Independent Consultant (non-residential)

- Analyzed the IT sector in Estonia and prepared a report for Microsoft.

COMMITTEES AND AFFILIATIONS

2009-Present Nationalities Papers, Referee .

2008- Present American Political Science Association, Information Technology and Politics Section, Executive Committee Member

2007 - Present *Vaba Ühiskonna Instituut* (Estonian Free Society Institute), Founder and Advisory Board Member.

2007 - 2008 Transatlantic “Democracy Deficit” Working Group, Member (funded by US National Science Foundation).

2007 International Journal of Public Policy, Referee on the Special Issue on Regulatory Reform.

2006 - Present Journal of Information Technology and Politics, Editorial Board Member and Referee.

2005-2008 Tufts Alumni Admissions Program, Interviewer.

- 2005- Present American Political Science Association, Member.
- 2005 - 2007 International Symposium on Social and Organizational Informatics and Cybernetics (SOIC 2005), Program Committee Member, Orlando, Florida, USA.
- 2004- 2007 Copenhagen Institute (formerly MarkedsCentret), Honorary Fellow.
- 2004 - 2007 Politics and Information Systems (PISTA), Conference Reviewer, Orlando, Florida, USA.
- 2003 Faculty Search Committee for Technology Policy Professor at the Fletcher School of Law and Diplomacy at Tufts University, Student Representative, Medford, MA, USA.
- 1999- Present 21st Century Trust, Fellow, London, United Kingdom.

PUBLICATIONS

- Forthcoming Book Review of “The Myth of Digital Democracy” by Matthew Hindman, Princeton University Press 2009, *Journal of Politics* 72 (1).
- 2009 “Turning Dirt Road into Information Highways: The Conceptual Misformation of the Internet Diffusion.” World Information Project Working Paper # 2009.2 Seattle: University of Washington (with Philip N. Howard).
- 2008 “Brooks’ versus Linus’ Law: An Empirical Test of Open Source Projects” in the Proceedings of International Conference on Digital Government Research, Montreal, Canada, May 18-21, 2008 (with Charlie Schweik, Bob English and Sandra Haire).
- 2008 “Explaining the E-Government Success in Estonia” in the Proceedings of International Conference on Digital Government Research, Montreal, Canada, May 18-21, 2008.
- 2007 Book Review of “E-Government in Europe: rebooting the state”, edited by Paul Nixon and Vassiliki Koutrakou, London: Routledge 2007, *Journal of Information Technology and Politics* 4 (3).
- 2007 “Explaining E-Government Success in Estonia” (Abstract in English, article in Russian), special issue of E-government and Democracy in the beginning of the XXIth Century: International and Russia's National Experience "Politicheskaya Nauka" (Political Science), No. 4. Moscow: Russian Academy of Sciences and Political Science Association.
- 2006 “Social Tallies and Silicon Valleys” in *Beyond the European Social Model*, Open Europe, London, United Kingdom. pp. 55-60.
- 2005 “Estonia” in Sacha Kumaria eds. *The State of The Union: Market-oriented reform in the EU 2004*. Stockholm Network, London, United Kingdom. pp. 16-17.
- 2004 “Beyond The Internet: Radical Reformer Versus Smooth Transformer” *Journal of Systemics, Cybernetics and Informatics*, Vol. 2, No 2.
- 2003 “Beyond the Internet: Radical Reformer versus Smooth Transformer” in Jose V. Carrasquero, Friedrich Welsch, Claudia Urrea and Cheng Dong-Tso, eds, *Politics and Information Systems: Technologies and Applications. Conference Proceedings* International Institute of Informatics and Systemics, Orlando, Florida, USA pp. 263-268

- 2003 “Behind Corruption: From NGOs to the Civil Society” eumap.org, EU Accession Monitoring Program of Open Society Institute. July 29. Budapest, Hungary.
- 2002 “Political Economy of Internet Penetration in Finland and Sweden (1995- 2000),” EBS Review, Winter 2001/2002, No 13, Estonian Business School Press, Tallinn, Estonia. pp. 9-17.
- 1999 “Service Sector’s Contribution to the City of Tallinn,” *Conference Proceedings, World Services Congress*, November, Atlanta, Georgia, USA.
- 1998 *Majandusmõtte ajalugu* (History of Economic Thought). EBS Press, Tallinn, Estonia.

CONFERENCE PAPERS

- 2009 “Tacit Web: A Look at the Digital Divide Below the Tip of the Iceberg”, International Studies Association, Annual Convention, February 15-18, New York, NY.
- 2008 “Tacit Web: A Look at the Digital Divide Beyond the Surface of the Iceberg”, American Political Science Association, Annual Meeting, August 28- 31, Boston, MA, USA.
- 2008 “The Impact of Identity Politics on Economic Reforms in Estonia and Latvia”, Association for the Study of Nationalities, 13th World Convention at Columbia University, April 10-12, 2008, New York, NY, USA
- 2008 “Success without Strategy: The E-Government Evolution in Estonia ”, International Studies Association Annual Meeting, March 26-29, 2008, San Francisco, CA, USA
- 2008 “When the Information Highway is a Dirt Road: The Conceptual Stretching of Internet Diffusion”, International Studies Association Annual Meeting, March 26-29, 2008, San Francisco, CA, USA.
- 2007 “Mind the Gap: Misrepresentation of Comparative Advantage in International Relations Textbooks”, American Political Science Association, Annual Meeting, August 30 - September 2, Chicago, IL, USA.
- 2007 “The Impact of Identity Politics on Economic Reforms in Estonia”, Association for the Study of Nationalities, 12th World Convention at Columbia University, April 12-14, 2007, New York, NY, USA.
- 2007 “Exploring the Limits of Legalization in the WTO: The Case of Basic Telecom Agreement”, International Studies Association Annual Meeting, February 28 – March 3, 2007, Chicago, IL, USA.
- 2006 “Political Economy and Technology: A Comparative Study of Internet Diffusion in Transition Economies”, American Political Science Association, Annual Meeting, August 31 - September 3, Philadelphia, PA, USA.
- 2004 “Absorbing the Backlash Against Liberal Society: Rawls’s Political Liberalism vs. Mill’s Comprehensive Liberalism,” Northeastern Political Science Association 36th Annual Meeting, November 11-13, Boston, MA, USA.

- 2004 “The Impact of Institutional Change on Internet Diffusion in Small Transition Economies,” Ronald Coase Institute Workshop on Institutional Analysis, September 25-30, Tucson, Arizona, USA.
- 2003 “Beyond the Internet: Radical Reformer versus Smooth Transformer,” International Conference on Politics and Information Systems: Technologies and Applications (PISTA'03) organized jointly with the International Conference on Computer, Communication and Control Technologies (CCCT '03), July 31-August 2, Orlando, Florida, USA.

SCHOLARSHIPS AND FELLOWSHIPS

- 2002-2008 Humane Studies Fellowship of the Institute for Humane Studies at George Mason University for studies at the Fletcher School of Law and Diplomacy and UMass Amherst.
- 2007 Travel grant from the US National Science Foundation for attending transatlantic “Democracy Deficit” Working Group in Regensburg, Germany.
- 2002-2004 Fulbright Scholarship from the U.S. State Department for graduate studies at the Fletcher School of Law and Diplomacy
- 2002-2004 Armand Hammer Scholarship at the Fletcher School of Law and Diplomacy
- 2003-2004 Linna Scholarship of Estonian World Council for studies at the Fletcher School.
- 2003-2004 Lellep Scholarship of Estonian Students Fund in US for studies at the Fletcher School.
- 2001-2002 Atlas Economic Research Foundation/John Templeton Foundation, Freedom Scholar at the Estonian Business School
- 2000-2001 Michael Peacock Scholarship (full) for graduate studies at London School of Economics.
- 1994 Charles Koch Fellowship for studies and internship in USA
- 1993 Open Estonia Foundation, grant for studies and internship in USA

POLITICAL ACTIVITIES

- 1999-2000 Tallinn City Council, Chairman, City Property Committee
- 1999-2000 Central Tallinn City Council, Deputy Chairman and Property Committee, Chairman
- 1997-2000 Tallinn City Council, member
- 1994-1996 Federation of Estonian Student Unions, Chairman
- 1992-1995 Association Res Publica, Chairman